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AMERICAN ADVOCATE OF PEACE.

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BENJAMIN F. TRUEBLOOD EDITOR.

DO THE AMERICANS HATE ENGLAND?

It is much to be regretted that Mr. Simon Hanauer, of the Frankfort Peace Society, has seen fit to make and publish in *Die Waffen Nieder* the following statement as to the feeling in the United States toward England:

"Of all the wars which the future of the American Union may bring, none would be more popular in the United States than a war with England. For every American child studies with enthusiasm the glorious history of its own country and thence derives a hatred against England, which, although slumbering, grows with the child's growth, and may be compared to the feeling which the Carthaginians cherished against Rome."

It is quite as much to be regretted that Mr. Hanauer's statement has got into the English peace papers and is being circulated by them, sometimes with comment sometimes without, as if it were substantially true. The correctness of it, if not openly declared, is at least supported by the fact that Mr. Hanauer "has resided many years in the United States" and is therefore assumed to know whereof he affirms. The sweeping character of the statement ought to have put our English friends on their guard against accepting it without many grains of allowance. One may live many years in some part of a country which is 3000 miles by 2500 miles in extent and yet know but little about the general sentiment of its people. One section of a country as large as the United States often differs very much in sentiment from other sections, and this fact ought to make one careful about generalizing what he may have seen in one locality into a universal judgment about the whole country.

Without reflecting in the least on the honesty of intention of Mr. Hanauer whom we, personally, know to be an excellent man and a genuine friend of peace, we are constrained to say without reserve that his statement, in the form in which it is put, could scarcely be farther from the truth. Think of it! The hatred of England which the American children imbibe in the study of "the glorious history of their country" growing with their growth until it becomes like the Carthaginian hatred of Rome! One can almost imagine, as he reads such a statement, the Atlantic covered with American galleys all pushing their angry beaks straight for the detested mother-country, or a thousand little western Hannibals led by their British-hating papas to some altar and there swearing eternal vengeance against their hereditary foe.

There is, we are sorry to have to say, too much dislike of the English among our citizens, just as there is too much of the same thing in England toward us. This is the legacy which the two wars of 1776 and 1812 have

left us and of which we shall not get entirely rid for a long time to come. It affects us unconsciously even in spite of efforts to throw it off. But the state of feeling between the two countries is gradually, one might almost say rapidly, changing for the better. As to the United States three things are incontestable. Instead of it being true, as Mr. Hanauer says, that dislike of England grows with the children as they grow, the exact opposite is true. You may sometimes hear a twelve-year-old who has just got through his first reading of our early national history loudly declaring that he would like to help "thrash" England; even this is not at all common. But the little "patriots," who for the moment are living over again the scenes of '76, largely outgrow this as they come to maturity and learn that the England of to-day is very different from that of the times of George the Third.

In the second place, it is a noteworthy fact that in those parts of the country where the dislike of England might be supposed to linger longest and be most deeply rooted, it has most nearly disappeared. At Boston and Philadelphia and the other cities of the East, where the memorials of the revolution are the most numerous, England is respected and trusted and honored as she is nowhere else in the land. But this feeling is becoming more and more general in the country among all the better classes of our population, and the other classes think and care little about it. While making this statement, we would not disguise the attitude of a considerable number of editors and politicians who are ready to make capital out of the least untoward event and to try to frighten our people into believing that England with her big fleet is secretly planning to fall upon us at no distant day. But the power of these is growing continually less, and it is wholly within bounds to say that the great majority of the American people would look upon a war with England as the most deplorable thing that could befall us.

This leads us, in the last place, to say that the people of this country are, with increasing seriousness, disposed to look upon the United States and Great Britain as "two nations but one people," whose great general interests are one and the same, whose destinies are interlocked, who are foremost in creating for the world what in the future is to be the law of the peaceful adjustment of international difficulties. We would not overlook nor minimize the unfortunate dislikes existing between them, but we would be the last to magnify and exaggerate them or to wish to see others do so. Our peace cause will be glorious enough in its triumph without having to conquer fancied evils.

EDUCATION IN BRUTALITY.

The extract from a Philadelphia paper which we give on another page calls attention to a subject of much greater importance than at first seems. The evil of bill posting, as a source of education in brutality and crimes of vio-